

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 04704 271250Z
ACTION DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NRC-07 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 IO-14
/154 W

-----004041 271428Z /72

R 271222Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 469

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 4704

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG IN
SUBJECT: TARAPUR FUEL SUPPLY

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO MADRAS CALCUTTA
FROM BOMBAY MAR 27 IS REPEATED

QUOTE
UNCLAS BOMBAY 0741

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IN
SUBJ: TARAPUR FUEL SUPPLY

1. INSPITE OF PRIME MINISTER MORARJI DESAI'S CATEGORICAL
STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT LAST WEEK THAT THE U.S. HAS NOT
REPEAT NOT BROKEN THE TARAPUR AGREEMENT THE BOMBAY FREE PRESS
JOURNAGLYEF ENTITLES ITS LEAD EDITORIAL IN THE MARCH 27 ISSUE
"BREACH OF CONTRACT". FPJ SUGGESTS THAT BREACH IS DOUBLE
PERFIDY ON PART OF U.S. BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT ONLY FAILED TO
SUPPLY 7.6 TONS OF ENRICHED URANIUM WHICH IT ALLEGES WAS DUE
IN SEPTEMBER BUT ALSO REFUSED TO TAKE BACK SPENT FUEL WHEN
STORAGE PROBLEM AROSE AT TARAPUR. IN ANOTHER MIS-STATEMENT OF
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FACT EDITORIAL ALSO ACCUSED USG OF NOT MOVING ON SHIPMENT OF
7.6 TONS UNTIL FEBRUARY EVEN THOUGH THE USG KNEW THAT THE
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION HAS A LONG RECORD OF STALLING
ON PREVIOUS EXPORT APPLICATION.

2. EDITORIAL ALLEGES THAT DELAY IS A PRESSURE TACTIC BY
CARTER ADMINISTRATION WHICH "INSPITE OF EXUDING GOODWILL AND

FRIENDSHIP FOR THIS COUNTRY WANTED NEW DELHI TO SUBMIT
ITSELF TO THE U.S. REQUIREMENT OF OPENING UP ALL THE NUCLEAR
FACILITIES OF INDIA TO EXTERNAL INSPECTION.

3. EDITORIAL FINDS THAT THE LONG TERM OUTLOOK FOR TARAPUR
"SEEMS GRIM WHICH MAY EVENTUALLY FORCE ITS EVENTUAL
CLOSURE". THE FPJ WELCOMES PRIME MINISTER MORARJI DESAI'S
CATEGORICAL AFFIRMATION ON THE FLOOR OF THE LOK SABHA THAT
INDIA WOULD SHUTDOWN THE TARAPUR STATION RATHER THAN SUCCUMB
TO AMERICAN PRESSURE FOR EXTERNAL INSPECTION. THE PAPER THEN
ASKS THE QUESTION WHETHER THIS COUNTRY "CAN AFFORD TO PUT IN
COLD STORAGE ITS FIRST ATOMIC POWER PLANT ON WHICH A WHOPPING
SUM OF RS.300 CRORES HAS BEEN SUNK?"

4. THE EDITORIAL CLOSED BY TAKING A RAP AT THE UNION
GOVERNMENT FOR TRANSFERRING DR. ROGER RAMANNA TO A DESK JOB
IN NEW DELHI. IT CREDITS RAMANNA WITH DEVELOPING PLANS FOR A
"BLENDED FUEL" BY MIXING NATURAL URANIUM WITH PLUTONIUM.
THE PAPER TERMS SUCH TRANSFERS UNHEALTHY PRACTICES WHICH WILL
ONLY ADD FURTHER TO THE FRUSTRATION "OF OUR SCIENTISTS WHO
ARE ALREADY WORKING UNDER GREAT STRAIN AND HARDSHIP."
COURTNEY

UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

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NNN

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